Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 XMB-02 COME-00 /075 W

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CONFIDENTIAL ANTANANARIVO 1533

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, MA, US

SUBJECT: CHARGE'S CALL ON MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PLANNING

REFS: (A) ANTANANARIVO 1448; (B) STATE 186663; (C) ANTANANARIVO 1309

- 1. DURING MY COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER RAKOTOVAO-RAZAKABOANA ON AUGUST 24 HE ECHOED MY HOPE THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEFINITIVE GOVERNMENT, WHICH CONCLUDED THE INSTALLATION OF NEW GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS, WOULD PERMIT MALAGASY GOVERNMENT TO MOVE AHEAD WITH NEEDED WORK, WHICH HAD BEEN LEFT ASIDE IN RECENT MONTHS DUE TO PREOCCUPATION WITH POLITICS, INCLUDING THE RESOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN MADAGASCAR AND THE US. HE RECALLED THE CLOSE PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP HE HAD ENJOYED WITH MY PREDECESSOR GIL SHEINBAUM AND SAID HE HOPED THAT WE WOULD DEVELOP A SIMILAR RELATIONSHIP AND THAT WE WOULD HAVE OCCASION FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS OF SUBJECTS WHICH CONCERNED HIS MINISTRY IN THE FIELD OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT.
- 2. MINISTER RAZAKABOANA CONFIRMED THAT THEPURCHASE OF A B 747 WAS IN ITS FINAL STAGES. THE PROBLEM OF DEROGATION OF SOVEREIGNTY HAD BEEN SETTLED TO THE SATISFACTION OF NATIONAL CITY BANK BY SPECIFYING THAT THE STATE-OWNED CENTRAL BANK OF MADAGASCAR WOULD BE THE MALAGASY ENTITY SUBJECT TO CONFIDENTIAL

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LEGAL ACTION IN THE US IN CASE OF PAYMENT DEFAULT, AND THERE REMAIN ONLY A FEW TECHNICAL PROBLEMS TO BE IRONED OUT FOR THE SIGNATURE OF THE FINAL CONTRACT.

3. THE MINISTER ALSO GAVE ME HIS PERSONAL VIEWS ON THE PURCHASE OF LOCKHEED HERVULES AIRCRAFT WHICH ARE REPORTED BY SEPTEL.BARRETT

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